

The Newspaperboys Hall of Fame

CREATED BY SID MARKS

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Sept 27th 1973

Dear General Walters

Please be kind enough to excuse me for this note about my hobby.

I sell America through the newspaperboys, and collect stories and pictures of men in the American spotlight in all fields of endeavor, that were newspaperboys as young lads.

I know Sir, that only in this great U.S.A. can a newspaperboy rise to the highest office in the Land.

Were you a newspaperboy as a lad Sir. If you were, would you honor me with your autographed picture for my Hall Of Fame.

Enclosed a bit about me and my hobby. I trust this will find you and yours in the very best of health.

Respectfully Yours

Sid Marks
Sid Marks

Their own Hall of Fame

by Sid Marks

At last — your newspaperboy can look forward to being honored alongside some great Americans

If he delivers your afternoon newspaper, you often see him. If it's a morning newspaper that the little guy brings to you, he probably puts it at your door and is on his way before you are up.

Anyway, you may not really know him. You probably take him for granted, although yesterday was his day—National Newspaperboy Day—ushering in National Newspaper Week. You perhaps don't realize, either, that one day your newspaperboy may be in a Hall of Fame all his own.

There is, indeed, such a Hall of Fame. It's for successful men who got their start as newspaperboys, and in it are great business leaders, governors, senators, champion athletes, and hundreds of others who in one field or another have made their mark. Your newspaperboy now has as his distant goal a membership in that distinguished group.

I know about newspaperboys. I used to be one in London, long before I became an American citizen. That's why I've compiled this honor list of Americans. That's why I've written a book about them—*The Newspaperboys' Hall of Fame* (House-Warven, Publishers, Hollywood).

Once I heard a young Englishman say, "Why, no boy of gentle blood would handle newspapers."

And I heard a young American say, "What's gentle blood?"

We don't talk about blood being gentle over here. We do talk about what it takes for a newspaperboy to rise to the Presidency—for President Eisenhower and former Presidents Hoover and Truman once were newspaperboys.

We can't all be Presidents, but some of the qualities that make up a President are learned by newspaperboys day in and out along their routes. They learn to be efficient, ingenious, helpful, resourceful, and they sometimes learn courage.

Young Joe Palmer, of Mesa, Arizona, is an example. He was calling on subscribers, making collections, one day when he crossed a bridge over an irrigation ditch. Beneath him he saw a little boy struggling, face down, in the water. Joe plunged in and rescued the child.

When the child's mother and grandparents offered him a reward, he said, "I only did my duty."

I'll grant you that this kind of fast thinking isn't newspaper delivery. It's outside the line of duty. It's only one of the good qualities that newspaperboys have, or learn. Newspaperboys do more than deliver newspapers. They are in business for themselves. They are independent, have responsibility, and keep the profits of their hard and faithful work. They learn sportsmanship and fair play, a foundation for a lifetime.

Parents tell me of the subtle change that takes place when a son becomes a newspaperboy. He still likes everything that is natural to one of his age, but he suddenly acquires a sense of responsibility, and this grows. That's been the case with the men I've interviewed, corresponded with, or learned about—and put in the Hall of Fame, which is to have a constantly growing roster.

"In the little town of Rich Hill, Missouri," says Cleo F. Craig, president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, "I used to pick up the newspapers and deliver them on horseback."

"I started selling newspapers at the age of five," says Benjamin F. Fairless, president of the United States Steel Corporation. "Twelve copies for regular customers and six that I peddled around town. I netted 50 per cent of my gross. All I lacked was volume!"

Francis Cardinal Spellman was once a newspaper delivery boy in Whitman, Massachusetts. John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, used to have a paper route in Des Moines, Iowa. Crawford H. Greenewalt, president of the E. I. du Pont de Nemours Company, began as a newspaperboy.



TOP BRASS IN "HALL OF FAME" — On just two pages from Sid Marks' Hall of Fame are seen Gen. John R. Hodge, Chief of U.S. Field Forces; Gen. J. E. Hull, Commander in Chief of U.S. Army's Far East Command and United Nations Command; Gen. Edwin William Rawlings, U.S. Air Force; Gen. Nathan F. Twining, U.S. Air Force Chief; Rear Admiral John R. Redman, Vice-Admiral F. C. Denebrink, Vice-Admiral R. F. Good, U.S. Navy; Vice Admiral C. W. Fox. All got their start in life as newsboys and are proud of it.

Sid Marks

Newspaperboys do more than deliver newspapers. They are in business for themselves. They have responsibility and learn sportsmanship and fair play—a foundation for a lifetime.

"These newspaperboys who travel the streets are not the delinquent boys of America, indeed they are the leaders of tomorrow, working to improve themselves and, in turn, their nation."

Although FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover made this statement recently, one would feel certain, after talking to Sid Marks for a while, that it was he who had inspired Hoover's words.

Marks, a short, stocky fellow in his fifties, who once was the light-heavyweight boxing champion of Canada, has been traveling the United States, at his own expense, from coast to coast, border to border, drumming up interest in what he calls a newspaperboys' "Hall of Fame."

"We have halls of fame for baseball players, football stars and other fields of endeavor, why not for newspaperboys?" Sid asks. "After all, even though these other fellows contribute in some way to the American way of life, perhaps none of them add to our way in the manner that the average newspaperboy does."

Sid, in the three years since he started his campaign in January of 1948, has talked to the President, governors, senators, congressmen, athletes, bankers and men in all walks of life.

SHOWS BIG BOOK

Sid exhibits an enormous scrapbook (one of several he has), with the autographed pictures of such men as Harry Truman, Earl Warren, Dwight Eisenhower, Thomas Dewey, J. Edgar Hoover, Herbert Hoover, Omar Bradley, Cardinal Spellman, Rabbi Magnin, Joe DiMaggio and countless others.

"And they were all newspaperboys in their youth," Sid says.

With each picture is a warm personal letter urging Sid to keep up his work to glorify the American newspaperboy.

"I've even got a letter from Truman," he says, "but this one isn't worth much," he adds with a chuckle. "It was one of Harry's 'nice' letters."

Sid has been interested in newspaperboys since he was one himself in his hometown of London.

"One thing that happened when I was a newspaperboy has lingered with me all these years," he adds, as his eyes become a little moist. "It was on my 10th birthday, and I had been walking the streets of London all night. In those days, you see, you couldn't go home until you had sold all your papers."

RECALLS CAKE

"Finally, about 3 o'clock in the morning, I sold my last paper, and started home. When I got home, my mother, who had waited up all night for me, sat there with a birthday cake, and 10 gleaming candles. I've never forgotten that and I suppose that's why I have a soft spot in my heart for newspaperboys, their moms and pops."

In choosing the newspaperboys as a symbol of American democracy, opportunity and freedom, I feel that I am not giving undue stress to their activities and success. The story of America is packed with the deeds of great and wise men, in every form of endeavor, who were not newspaperboys. Yet the fact that a boy who delivered or sold newspapers can rise to the highest position in the land, is to me one of the miracles of American life.



New postage stamp will pay tribute to newsboys

The dreams of one man and the labor of millions of American newsboys will be honored this year by the people of the United States.

Postmaster General Jesse M. Donaldson today announced in Washington that the government soon will issue a stamp commemorating the newsboys of America.

To Sid Marks, Los Angeles sportsman, this news was a dream come true. For years Marks, former lightweight boxing champion of Canada, has been waging a one-man campaign for recognition of newsboys.

It was Marks' idea that such a stamp be issued. He kept after Los Angeles Congressman Samuel Yorty to use his good offices in Washington to see the thing through.

Marks, a Navy hero in his native England in World War I and a sergeant in the U. S. Army in World War II, has for the last 10 years been spending his time and money in selling America to Americans.

He began his business life selling newspapers on London streets,

and makes this observation:

"In Europe if you're a newsboy, your chances of being anything else are mighty slim.

"In the United States a newsboy can be president—and several of them have occupied the White House.

For Marks, a naturalized citizen, the newsboy is the protector of one of our greatest freedoms—freedom of the press.

"And just think," he says, "the little fellows go through all kinds of weather—rain, snow, sleet—to deliver an independent press to our very door."

The culmination of Marks' years of labor in bringing recognition to the American newsboy will come soon with the publication of his book, "Newspaperboy's Hall of Fame."

The book will contain stories and pictures of famous men who were themselves once newsboys.

All of Marks' royalties from the book, to be published by House-Warven of Los Angeles, will go to a scholarship fund for worthy newspaper boys.

Newsboys' "Hall of Fame" Author Tells Why He Champions Carriers' Cause

The American newsboy's best friend and most ardent champion, Sidney Marks, author of the book, "Newspaperboy's Hall of Fame" which came off the press in January of this year.

Among Marks' most prized possessions are two huge scrapbooks. One contains the autographed photographs of some 700 prominent persons including that of President Eisenhower, former Presidents Hoover and Truman and four four-star generals.

His collection is representative of all walks of life with pictures of such notables as Cardinal Spellman, John L. Lewis, Jimmy Durante, Joe Louis, Bruce Barton, Thomas E. Dewey, Jack Dempsey, Former Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson, Benjamin F. Fairless, to name but a few.

All started their careers as newsboys and all have been personally interviewed or contacted by Marks who has spent some six years and \$47,000 of his own money compiling the unique collection—a tribute to newspaper boys of the nation.

The newspaper boy, according to Marks, symbolizes everything that makes America great. Only here of all countries in the world, he declares, can a kid work from street corner to the White House.

Marks began his own career by selling newspapers on the streets of London as a very small lad. "staked" by his mother with a few pennies.

Marks joined the British Army at 13 and later the Navy. Then he became Canadian lightweight champion. He came to the U. S. for a fight and liked it so much that he stayed.

He has been a movie stunt man, wrestling promoter, bodyguard, author and referee, as well as a U. S. Army sergeant in World War II.

Marks claims newsboys are the same all over the world. They all dream about what they want to do for their parents, and they dream about what they want to be when they grow up. But it is only the newsboys of America who stand much chance of having their dreams come true. They can

be anything they choose to be—even president or a four star general.

"Newsboys learn to be efficient, ingenuous, helpful and resourceful," argues Marks. "They do more than deliver papers, they are in business for themselves. They are independent and they have responsibilities and keep the profits of their hard and faithful work. They learn sportsmanship and fair play, a foundation for a lifetime."

What caused Sid Marks, the Canadian lightweight champion to become the newsboys' champion? It happened like this.

After Marks was discharged from the Army in 1946 he decided to do something for his adopted country, and that was to sell America to Americans.

It seemed to him that the newsboys symbolized everything that goes to make America great.

Marks hit upon the idea of starting a newsboys' hall of fame made up of newsboys who had achieved the honor and respect of their fellow Americans.

He started off by interviewing former President Herbert Hoover and obtaining his photograph, signature, and the story of how he helped finance himself through engineering school by selling newspapers. From then on it was easy.

"The bigger they are, the easier it is to get to see them," said Marks. "And all were pleased to tell me that they once had delivered newspapers."

It was Marks' idea that a stamp should be issued to honor the nation's newsboys. He kept after Los Angeles Congressman Samuel Yorty to use his good office in Washington to see the thing through.

Marks says all royalties from his book will go to a scholarship fund for worthy newspaper boys. He also has a television program in the making and everything above a very modest salary from this will also go toward the fund.

San Francisco Examiner Get Into Business—EARLY By Bruce Barton

A GOOD FRIEND of mine, Sid Marks, has just published a book called *The Newspaperboy's Hall of Fame*. It is a Who's Who of successful men—all of whom started their careers peddling papers. Men like Crawford Greenewalt, president of Dupont; Roy Howard, head of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers; Bob Hope, John L. Lewis, Eddie Rickenbacker, Lowell Thomas, and Chief Justice Vinson. Here are brief quotations from some of them:

Cleo F. Craig, president of AT&T, began as a newspaper boy "in the little town of Rich Hill, Missouri. . . . I had a job at a combination newsstand and soda fountain. In addition to working at the fountain, I used to pick up the St. Louis and Kansas City newspapers at the train depot and deliver them, together with the Rich Hill Review, on horseback around town. My pay was \$6.25 a week, and I furnished my own horse."

Benjamin F. Fairless, chairman of United States Steel Corporation: "As a child I had no idea of growing up to be a business executive, let alone the chairman of the world's biggest steel company. My problem was simply how to make a living. I started at the age of 5, selling papers for the Cleveland Penny Press. Each afternoon I met the train and grabbed my precious bundle: Twelve copies for regular customers and six or seven extras that I peddled around town. The papers cost me half a cent apiece; I sold them for a penny. It was, I often think, the best business I was ever in—no overhead and no taxes, and I netted 50 per cent of my gross. All I lacked was volume."

Walt Disney started in Kansas City: "My newspaper route got me up at 3:30 every morning and kept me hustling right up to breakfast and time to hurry to school. Then, after school, I did the same thing with the evening paper. . . . Doing his work regularly every day, in all kinds of weather, often against his inclinations to loaf . . . gives a youngster a good foundation for his responsibilities as a citizen later on."

Speaker of the House of Representatives Joe Martin, a member of the Hall of Fame, is right when he says: "Being a newspaperboy brightens a boy, sharpens his wits, and makes him understand public psychology."

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Recalls Ex-Newsboy Entertainers

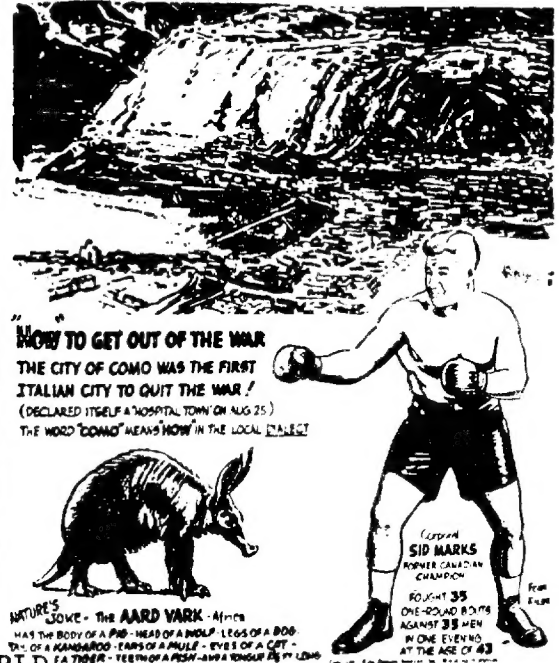
BY WALTER AMES

Sid Marks, once one of the world's top lightweight boxers, He's one of the real authorities on newsboys who have become famous sends in a list of entertainers who once hawked papers on street corners on the occasion of today's celebration of National Newspaperboys Week. he lists Lowell Thomas, Ted Malone, Cedric Adams, Gabriel Heatter, Art Linkletter, Jack Bailey, Knox Manning, Edward Arnold, Ralph Edwards, Tony Martin. Morey Amsterdam, Jimmy Durante, Walter O'Keefe, Herb Shriner Joe Venuti, Phil Baker, Danny Thomas, Gordon MacRae, Dennis Day, Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Morton Downey, Eddie Cantor, Pat O'Brien, Arthur Godfrey, Frank Sinatra, Charles Correll and Billy Eckstine. To these and the hundreds of other present and ex newsboys our salute.

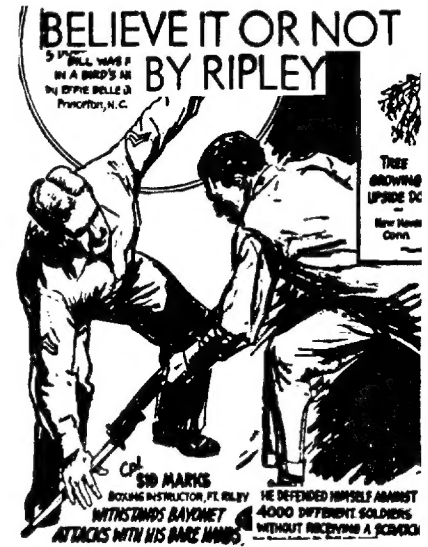
BELIEVE IT OR NOT BY RIPLEY



JACK DEMPSEY-FORMER HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION OF THE WORLD EX NEWSPAPERBOY WITH SID MARKS SHOWING HALL OF FAME.



JOE LOUIS HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION OF THE WORLD AND SID MARKS, GIVING BOXING INSTRUCTIONS AT FT RILEY 1943



THEN AND NOW . . . Two "shots" of Sgt. Sid Marks, CRTC boxing impressario, who has organized outdoor ring shows for the coming season. Sid when he was a boy of around 15 in the uniform of the British Royal Navy. shows him as he is today, a soldier in the U. S. Army in his 40s. Sid recently was commended by Brig. Gen. Robert W. Strong, Commanding General at CRTC, for his splendid work. Sergeant Marks is a former lightweight boxing champion of Canada.



Strange AS IT SEEMS

By JOHN HIX

SID MARKS -- WHILE IN THE BRITISH NAVAL SERVICE, BOXED IN 12 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES:

ENGLAND
CANADA
SCOTLAND
GREECE
EGYPT
CUBA
MALTA
TURKEY
RUSSIA
ITALY
GERMANY AND
UNITED STATES.

CHRISTMAS COMES TWICE AT RODANTHE, N. WHERE IT IS OBSERVED TODAY AS WELL AS DEC 25 - TO CONFORM TO OLD CALEND

